Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

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BROWN BILL ON DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING PASSED BY HOUSE

INDIANAPOLIS -- Indiana House members have passed Senate Bill 416, legislation co-sponsored by State Rep. Charlie Brown (D-Gary) that requires free-standing diagnostic imaging facilities to be licensed by the Indiana State Department of Health, establishes the Diagnostic Imaging Facility Council and requires the Health Finance Commission to study the need for licensing outpatient surgical centers.

PET scans, CT scans, MRIs, nuclear imaging, or other invasive procedures for exploratory purposes will be considered diagnostic imaging as defined by the Indiana Code.

"Diagnostic imaging procedures are fairly complicated and require a significant amount of training," said Brown. "Because of the complexity of these procedures, I feel it is important that the state reviews the facilities where these procedures are taking place. Oversight from the state will help ensure that Indiana's citizens are receiving good medical care."

A council on diagnostic imaging, comprised of seven members, will be appointed by the governor. It is their responsibility to determine the guidelines for licensing diagnostic imaging facilities. The Indiana State Department of Health will then use these guidelines when licensing or inspecting diagnostic imaging centers.

There are between 160 and 200 diagnostic imaging centers in Indiana.

The bill also calls for a study to be performed by the Health Finance Commission determining the need for outpatient surgical centers to be licensed.

Senate Bill 416 was approved by the House in a 70 - 25 vote. Due to amendments added in the house, the bill returns to the Senate for further consideration.